

**Statement by the Commission and Member States in the framework of the PAFF  
Committee for the application of animal health certification during the transitional  
period between 21 April 2021 and October 2021**

Regulation (EU) 2016/429 on transmissible animal diseases (Animal Health Law) entered into application on 21 April 2021. To ensure a smooth transition from the legal framework in force before that date to the new system set up under the Animal Health Law, transitional periods for the use of animal health/official certificates for the intra-Union movements and for entry into the Union have been provided in Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) 2020/2235, (EU) 2020/2236 and (EU) 2021/403.

These transitional periods are also intended to ensure a proper adaptation to the change from the current TRACES CLASSIC to TRACES NT.

In order to ensure a smooth transition, Member States and the Commission have agreed in the framework of the PAFF Committee on the following practical elements for implementation of the rules concerning animal health certificates for **intra-Union movements** (during the transitional period until 17 October) and for acceptance for **entry into the Union** of consignments during transitional period until 20 October 2021, where certificates were signed before 21 August 2021.

1. Regarding animal health certificates for **intra-Union movements** for terrestrial and aquatic animals, germinal products and products of animal origin, Member States and the Commission agree:
  - that Member States will issue animal health certificates for intra-EU movements in line with the relevant practical guidance provided for in Commission Working Document SANTE/7104/2021;
  - that guarantees are not to be given in the relevant animal health certificates for those listed diseases under the Animal Health Law, for which specific guarantees are not available in the model form certificates still in force and in TRACES CLASSIC during the transitional period;
  - that animal health certificate is not to be issued for the commodities for which no animal health certificate was provided for in the rules in force prior to entry into application of the Animal Health Law and for which a format is not available in TRACES CLASSIC.
  
2. Regarding the use of animal health certificates and attestations for the **entry into the Union**, Member States and the Commission agree that the below applies for some specific issues regarding entry into the Union of:
  - captive birds including racing pigeons, relevant guidance provided for in Commission Working Document SANTE/7104/2021;
  - composite products “Statement by the Commission and Member States in the framework of the PAFF Committee for the application of animal health requirements for the entry into the Union of composite products from 21 April” [https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/international\\_affairs/trade/special-eu-import-conditions-composite-products\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/international_affairs/trade/special-eu-import-conditions-composite-products_en).